Response Serial No. 10/046,882 Attorney Docket No. 020044

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

Listing of claims:

This listing of claims replaces all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

1. (Currently Amended): An Internet printing method for a client to control the printing of a print server via the Internet using the Internet Printing Protocol, comprising:

a step of opening a server site of said the print server in a proxy unit on said the Internet according to a request from one of said the client and said and/or the print server;

a step of accessing said the server site using said the Internet Printing Protocol with said the client; and

a step of converting the <u>a</u> printing service request of said the client using said the Internet Printing Protocol into a protocol which allows circumventing the firewall of said the print server, and transferring said the converted printing service request to said the print server according to said the access.

2. (Currently Amended): The Internet printing method according to Claim 1, further comprising:

a step of returning the <u>an</u> execution result of <u>said</u> the printer server for <u>said</u> the printing service request to <u>said</u> the proxy unit, and returning the execution result to <u>said</u> the client from <u>said</u> the proxy unit using <u>said</u> the Internet Printing Protocol.

3. (Currently Amended): The Internet printing method according to Claim 1, further comprising:

a step of connecting said the proxy unit and said the print server according to the connection request from said the print server.

- 4. (Currently Amended): The Internet printing method according to Claim 3, wherein said the proxy unit plays the role of a server and said the print server plays the a role of a client when said the proxy unit and said the print server are connected, and said the proxy unit plays the a role of a client and said the print server plays the role of a server when said the printing service is requested after said the connection.
- 5. (Currently Amended): The Internet printing method according to Claim 1, further comprising:

a step of transmitting a printing command from said the client to said the print server using a protocol which can circumvent said the firewall; and

a step of connecting said the proxy unit and said the print server according to the connection request from said the print server corresponding to said the printing command.

6. (Currently Amended): The Internet printing method according to Claim 1, further comprising:

a step of transmitting a printing command from said the client to said the proxy unit using said the Internet Printing Protocol;

a step of transferring said the printing command from said the proxy unit to said the print server using a protocol which can circumvent said the firewall; and

a step of connecting said the proxy unit and said the print server according to the connection request from said the print server corresponding to said the transferred printing command.

7. (Currently Amended): The Internet printing method according to Claim 1, further comprising:

a step of constantly connecting said the proxy unit and said the print server according to the connection request from said the print server.

8. (Currently Amended): An Internet printing system for a client to control the printing for a print server via the Internet using the Internet Printing Protocol, comprising:

said the client for communicating that communicates at least by using the Internet Printing Protocol;

said the print server which that is protected by a firewall on said the Internet and for executing a printing request; and

a proxy unit for opening that opens a server site of said the print server according to a request from one of said the client and said and/or the print server, converts the printing service request of said the client using said the Internet Printing Protocol into a protocol which allows circumventing the firewall of said the print server at the access of said the client to said the server site by said the Internet Printing Protocol, and transfers the request to said the print server.

- 9. (Currently Amended): The Internet printing system according to Claim 8, wherein said the print server returns the execution result for said the printing service request to said the proxy unit and said the proxy unit returns said the execution result to said the client using said the Internet Printing Protocol.
- 10. (Currently Amended): The Internet printing system according to Claim 8, wherein said the proxy unit is connected to said the print server according to the connection request from said the print server.
- 11. (Currently Amended): The Internet printing system according to Claim 10, wherein said the proxy unit plays the a role of a server and said the print server plays the a role of a client when said the proxy unit and said the print server are connected, and said the proxy unit plays the

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<u>a</u> role of a client and said the print server plays the <u>a</u> role of a server when said the printing service is requested after said the connection.

- 12. (Currently Amended): The Internet printing system according to Claim 8, wherein said the client transmits a printing command to said the print server using a protocol which can circumvent said the firewall, and said the proxy unit connects with said the print server according to the connection request from said the print server corresponding to said the printing command.
- 13. (Currently Amended): The Internet printing system according to Claim 8, wherein said the client transmits a printing command to said the proxy unit using said the Internet Printing Protocol, and said the proxy unit transfers said the printing command to said the print server using a protocol which can circumvent said the firewall, and connects with said the print server according to the connection request from said the print server corresponding to said the transferred printing command.
- 14. (Currently Amended): The Internet printing system according to Claim 8, wherein said the proxy unit is constantly connected with said the print server according to the connection request from said the print server.

15. (Currently Amended): A proxy unit for a client to control the printing for a print server via the Internet using the Internet Printing Protocol, comprising:

a server site of said the print server to be opened according to the <u>a</u> request from one of said the client and said and/or the print server; and

an exchanger for converting a printing service request of said the client by the Internet Printing Protocol to a protocol which allows circumventing the firewall of said print server at the access of said client to said server site by said Internet Printing Protocol, and for transferring the request to said print server.

- 16. (Currently Amended): The proxy unit according to Claim 15, wherein said exchanger receives the an execution result of said print server for said printing service request and returns to said the client by said the Internet Printing Protocol.
- 17. (Currently Amended): The proxy unit according to Claim 15, wherein said the proxy unit connects with said the print server according to the connection request from said the print server.
- 18. (Currently Amended): The proxy unit according to Claim 17, wherein said the proxy unit plays the <u>a</u> role of a server and said the print server plays the <u>a</u> role of a client when said the proxy unit and said the print server are connected, and said the proxy unit plays the <u>a</u> role of a

client and said the print server plays the <u>a</u> role of a server when said the printing service is requested after said the connection.

19. (Currently Amended): A printer server for a client to control printing via the Internet using the Internet Printing Protocol, comprising:

a network interface unit for communicating; and

a processing unit for requesting that requests to a proxy unit installed on said the Internet to open a server site of said the print server, receiving a printing service request from said the proxy unit where a printing service request of said the client by Internet Printing Protocol is converted into a protocol which allows circumventing the firewall of said the print server at the access of said the client to said the server site by said the Internet Printing Protocol, and executing said executes the printing service request.

20. (Currently Amended): The print server according to Claim 19, wherein said the proxy unit plays the a role of a server and said the print server plays the a role of a client when said the proxy unit and said the print server are connected, and said the proxy unit plays the role of a client and said the print server plays the a role of a server when said the printing service is requested after said the connection.